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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The statuses of the claims are set forth in parentheses.

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) The system according to claim [[1]]7, wherein said characteristic of said cooling fluid comprises at least one of volume flow rate, velocity and direction of cooling fluid removal.

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3. (Currently amended) The system according to claim [[1]]7, further comprising:

at least one return controller operable to control at least one of said returns, wherein said at least one return controller is configured to substantially independently control said returns to thereby substantially independently vary said characteristic of said cooling fluid removal.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 3, further comprising:

a plurality of sensors configured to sense an environmental condition within said data center, said environmental condition including at least one of temperature, humidity, pressure, and cooling fluid flow rate, wherein said at least one return controller is configured to substantially independently control said returns in response to said measured pressure environmental condition.

5 and 6. (Canceled).

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7. (Currently amended) ~~The system according to claim 3, further comprising:~~ A cooling system for cooling racks in a data center, said system comprising:

a cooling device for circulating cooling fluid in said data center, said cooling device including a fan;

a plenum having a plurality of returns and an outlet, wherein said outlet of said plenum is in fluid communication with said fan, wherein said plurality of returns are configured for removing said cooling fluid from said data center and are operable to vary a characteristic of said removal of cooling fluid through said plurality of returns;

a cooling device controller operable to control the intake of said cooling fluid by said cooling device; and

a pressure sensor situated within said plenum to measure the pressure of said cooling fluid located within said plenum,

wherein said cooling device controller is operable to vary the intake of said cooling fluid by said cooling device in response to the measured pressure of said cooling fluid in said plenum.

8-15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 12, further comprising:~~ A method of cooling a plurality of racks in a data center, said method comprising:

activating a cooling system and opening a plurality of returns, said plurality of returns being configured to remove cooling fluid from various locations of said data center, said plurality of returns also being in fluid communication with a plenum, wherein cooling fluid is configured to flow through the plurality of returns through the plenum and into the cooling system;

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sensing a pressure of ~~an intake of~~ said cooling fluid <u>in the plenum</u>;

determining whether said sensed pressure is within a predetermined pressure range;

and

varying an intake of said cooling system <u>through the plurality of returns</u> in response to

said sensed pressure falling outside of said predetermined pressure range.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said step of varying said

cooling system intake includes determining whether said measured pressure falls below or

equals a predetermined minimum set point pressure.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

decreasing the intake of said cooling system in response to said measured pressure

falling below or equaling said predetermined minimum set point pressure.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

increasing the intake of said cooling system in response to said measured pressure

exceeding said predetermined minimum set point pressure.

20-28. (Canceled).

29. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising:~~

<u>An apparatus for cooling a plurality of racks in a data center, said apparatus comprising:</u>

<u>means for activating a cooling system and opening a plurality of returns, each of said</u>

<u>returns being configured to remove cooling fluid from various locations of said data center,</u>

<u>said plurality of returns also being in fluid communication with a plenum, wherein cooling</u>

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fluid is configured to flow through the plurality of returns through the plenum and into the cooling system;

means for sensing a pressure of ~~an intake of~~ said cooling fluid in the plenum;

means for determining whether said sensed pressure is within a predetermined pressure range; and

means for varying an intake of said cooling system through the plurality of returns in response to said sensed pressure falling outside of said predetermined pressure range.

30. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said means for varying said cooling system intake includes means for determining whether said measured pressure falls below or equals a predetermined minimum set point pressure.

31. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 30, further comprising:

means for decreasing the intake of said cooling system in response to said measured pressure falling below or equaling said predetermined minimum set point pressure.

32. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 30, further comprising:

means for increasing the intake of said cooling system in response to said measured pressure exceeding said predetermined minimum set point pressure.

33-41. (Canceled).

42. (Currently amended) ~~The computer readable medium according to claim 38, further comprising:~~ A computer readable medium on which is embedded computer software,

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said software comprising executable code for performing a method of cooling a plurality of

racks in a data center, said method comprising:

activating a cooling system and opening a plurality of returns, each of said returns

being configured to remove cooling fluid from various locations of said data center, said

plurality of returns also being in fluid communication with a plenum, wherein cooling fluid is

configured to flow through the plurality of returns through the plenum and into the cooling

system;

sensing a pressure of ~~an intake of~~ said cooling fluid in the plenum;

determining whether said sensed pressure is within a predetermined pressure range;

and

varying an intake of said cooling system through the plurality of returns in response to

said sensed pressure falling outside of said predetermined pressure range.

43. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 42, wherein said

step of varying said cooling system intake includes determining whether said measured

pressure falls below or equals a predetermined minimum set point pressure.

44. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 43, further

comprising:

decreasing the intake of said cooling system in response to said measured pressure

falling below or equaling said predetermined minimum set point pressure.

45. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 43, further

comprising:

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increasing the intake of said cooling system in response to said measured pressure

exceeding said predetermined minimum set point pressure.

46-50. (Canceled).

51. (New) The system according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of sensors are

configured to sense an environmental condition in locations outside of the plurality of racks

and wherein the at least one controller is configured to substantially independently control

said plurality of returns in response to said measured environmental condition out side of the

racks.

52. (New) The system according to claim 7, wherein the plurality of returns includes

fans configured to draw cooling fluid from the data center, wherein the fans are movable to

vary a direction of cooling fluid removal.

53. (New) The system according to claim 7, wherein the plurality of returns are

independent of the racks.

54. (New) The system according to claim 7, wherein the cooling device controller is

operable to vary the speed of said compressor to vary a temperature of the cooling fluid

delivered to the racks.

55. (New) The system according to claim 7, wherein the cooling device controller is

operable to vary the speed of the fan to vary a volume flow rate of cooling fluid delivered to

the racks.

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56. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the step of varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises varying the direction of removal of said cooling fluid.

57. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the step of varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises substantially independently controlling said plurality of returns to thereby substantially independently vary said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks through said plurality of returns.

58. (New) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:

varying a speed of the compressor to vary a temperature of the cooling fluid delivered to the racks.

59. (New) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:

varying the speed of the fan to vary a volume flow rate of cooling fluid delivered to the racks.

60. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the various locations of said data center comprises a plurality of racks.

61. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the means for varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises means for varying the direction of said removal of said cooling fluid.

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62. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the means for varying said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks comprises means for substantially independently controlling said plurality of returns to thereby substantially independently vary said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks through said plurality of returns.

63. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

varying a speed of the compressor to vary a temperature of the cooling fluid delivered to the racks.

64 (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

means for varying the speed of the fan to vary a volume flow rate of cooling fluid delivered to the racks.

65. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 42, wherein the various locations of said data center comprises a plurality of racks.

66. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 42, further comprising:

varying the direction of removal of said cooling fluid.

67. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 42, further comprising:

substantially independently controlling said plurality of returns to thereby substantially independently vary said removal of said cooling fluid from said racks through said plurality of returns.

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68. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 42, further

comprising:

varying a speed of the compressor to vary a temperature of the cooling fluid delivered

to the racks.

69. (New) The computer readable medium according to claim 68, further

comprising:

varying the speed of the fan to vary a volume flow rate of cooling fluid delivered to

the racks.